

GREETINGS:

As we begin the month of July 2020, it is wise to remember we have made it through the first half of this topsy turvy year of unimaginable change and are on the way to the second half of our assignment in growth and awareness. As I read the Daily Word's message today "I am alive with joy", picked my daily blooming, fragrant gardenia and drank my tea in a gorgeous orange extravaganza of flowers with a golden "N" for my birthday on Friday, I know that we are all alive with joy, abundance and gratitude somewhere in our lives.

As June ended, Mars moved out of wet, neurotic Pisces into direct, brave home sign of Aries, and we are all given the opportunity to turn uncertainty into action. Yesterday, Mercury joined the Sun in Cancer to remind us that we become what we visualize and idealize. Now it is July and a third eclipse is waiting for us on July 4th & 5th. We are 2 down and 1 to go. Normally eclipses occur in pairs, but nothing in 2020 is normal, so we get a trio of eclipses from 6/5-7/5. The extra lunar nudge we get on 7/5, has the Full Moon in Capricorn, joining Saturn (returning to its home sign on 7/1), Jupiter and Pluto, for a Full House of duty, worry and responsibility. The trio of eclipses is pushing us toward movement and change, making it more difficult to choose a course of action. The best strategy is to proceed with caution and deliberation, keeping an eye out for green lights as we move slowly forward, one day at a time, like the water creature the turtle. There is greater visibility returning when the New Moon in Cancer on 7/20 leads us to the Sun returning to its vibrant home in Leo on 7/22. Below I will hit some of the highlights of July's energy patterns that we all share.

We continue to live with 5 retrograde planets till Mercury moves forward on 7/12. If life feels like we are stuck in the mud or in quicksand, or worse, "Groundhog Day", NOT THE MOVIE, just life in 2020, there is some truth in these metaphors. As always, the choice of attitude is up to us. I have noticed that people who are creative and optimistic are surging, people who are angry and pessimistic are struggling: the choice is ours. In general, when we have retrograde planets in such large numbers, we are reviewing and revising actions and decisions from the past, a great time for learning as we are not so close to the events and feelings we remember. I took this time to go through the photographs from my 76 years on earth and see what I could see and understand from my life so far. It was shockingly helpful. Try it and let me know how it works for you. Expansive Jupiter and restrictive, realistic Pluto, both in Capricorn, remain connected throughout July and we are all on a detective mission to know what is true for us personally. We will not know what is going on in the world until 2021, which is why I no longer follow the news.

As July continues in this year of transformation continuing at warp speed in unimaginable ways, security and stability are not part of the external picture. If security and stability are your goals, the retrograde planets support developing a daily spiritual practice and a deeper, more attentive inner life. We certainly have more time to develop deeper roots so we can grow when the conditions are fertile to do so. Mercury, the planet of our mental expression, runs into Mars on 7/6, the day after the last summer eclipse and may provide some forceful, intense thoughts and temptations to share them with others. It is best to wait to have a discussion until after Mercury returns to the place it turned backward, which occurs on 7/26.

On 7/14-15 there is a powerful surge of self-examination as the Sun in Cancer opposes both Jupiter and Pluto, which tends to inflate sensitive egos with power struggles a possible unwelcome result. The New Moon in Cancer on 7/20 is a testing time for all of us as it is opposed by reality bites planet Saturn, now returned to its home in Capricorn. This a course correcting opportunity time so find a trusted listener to

hear your thoughts before you speak. The hindsight wisdom that this pattern provides will be hard to miss, enabling us to put new plans into action. When the Sun returns to the brilliant, vibrant home of Leo on 7/22, we will all be ready to put new plans into action. At month's end (7/27), after retrograding through most of May and June, Venus, the source of attachment to what and who we love and value, is making progress as it returns to the position it held before the May/June revision of our values in air sign Gemini. This is the time to become lighthearted, laugh a lot and use your common sense as a few days of temporary uncertainty tease your true self-worth. It is a great time for creative projects and taking it easy. This is the time to process and digest the past three months, looking for a rainbow in your life as a vision of optimism and faith appear to inspire us.

I wish you all good health, a safe Independence Day celebration and a more peaceful month. I will be in the office from July 6 to month's end. I am looking forward to turning 77 on July 3 and will return to my writing thereafter. The title of my next essay will be: De-stress your Distress. Let me know if I can support and assist you in any way, either through a personal appointment in my office if you feel safe, or on the telephone.

WITH PEACE, LOVE, JOY, OPTIMISM AND GRATITUDE!

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